

Nyla I. Ruiz

Chapel Hill, NC | **LinkedIn:** www.linkedin.com/in/nylairuiz/

Public Health Advisor/Analyst | Program Manager

- Detail-oriented Program Coordinator with a diversified background in healthcare, program/project management, and academic research over the past four years.
- Highly skilled in critical thinking and creative problem-solving.
- Familiar with program development, implementation, and evaluation.
- Experienced in data analysis and visualization.
- Subject matter expertise on racial and ethnic health disparities, social determinants of health, and health equity.

Professional Experience

Social/Clinical Research Assistant

May 2020 – Present

East Carolina University | Greenville, NC

- Conduct a high-quality systematic literature review using Covidence to assess structural barriers to health or social determinants of health specific to North Carolina as a component of the HEAT-SC (Health Equity Achieved Through Structural Competency) study.
- Complete IRB application for HEAT-SC study in collaboration with the PIs (principal investigators) for approval prior to beginning the study in January 2021.
- Attend the Train-the-Trainer virtual event, facilitated by the SCWG (Structural Competency Working Group) based in Oakland, California with the intent of adapting this training to Eastern North Carolina physicians and health-focused faculty at East Carolina University to improve access and health outcomes of patients.
- Coordinate the design of the adapted Structural Competency Training using Microsoft PowerPoint to be shared with and modified by the HEAT-SC PIs prior to implementation of the virtual training in January 2021.
- Assist with manuscript writing for UMOMMI (Un-Masking the Origins of Maternal Mortality/Morbidity Inequities) project, which seeks to identify determinants of racial/ethnic disparities in maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, explore potential actionable mechanisms for these disparities, and examine the impact of choice of measure for severe maternal morbidity on estimates of racial disparities using data from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) Health Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP).
- Perform quantitative analysis as part of the UMOMMI project by translating severe maternal morbidity data output from SAS into data tables using Microsoft Word, breaking down the data into various categories including race/ethnicity, age at time of hospital visit, primary payer for visit, median household income, and urbanicity versus rurality.

Racial Equity Evaluation Consultant

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Orange County Health Department | Hillsborough, NC

- Produced a Work Plan including overall project scope and the creation of five deliverables based on Orange County Health Department's Racial Equity Strategic Plan
- Assisted the Capstone team in the development of equitable processes and practices evidence table, serving as a resource to Orange County Health Department when implementing programs within their organization.
- Developed and implemented an online survey using Qualtrics to assess staff knowledge of racial equity, understand staff behaviors in the workplace in relation to racial equity, and identify effective organizational practices that address racial equity and trauma.
- Prepared a Racial Equity Assessment Report to include raw survey data from Qualtrics, survey assessment, emerging themes, and provide recommendations to Orange County Health Department for organizational change or improvement.
- Supervised the Capstone team in the development of a 5-page report outlining protocols and processes to be used by Orange County Health Department during 360 evaluations, including background, preparation, and execution of effective 360 evaluations, as well as appendices of health department-specific questionnaires and relationship-specific (e.g., employee-supervisor; employee-self) processes.
- Coordinated the design and implementation of a racial equity curriculum including interactive modules to improve knowledge of racial equity with the health department in alignment with the Orange County Health Department's Racial Equity Strategic Plan.

Program Coordinator

Aug 2019 – May 2021

University of North Carolina | Chapel Hill, NC

- Supervised a team of 15 individuals in the functions of program planning and implementation to provide over 200 small-scale, large-scale, and virtual programs for a community of 30,000.
- Conceptualized, designed, and implemented two programming guides for both in-person and virtual programs for use by the team to record details of the program planning process including, but not limited to possible internal or external collaborators, identifying event resources, digital communication strategy for event promotion, and post-event reflection.
- Supervised the program planning process, including but not limited to managing a \$500,000 budget, email correspondence, cultivating relationships with internal and external partners.
- Coordinated and lead weekly meetings with team members and external collaborators to discuss program ideas, initiatives, collaborations, budgets, and sponsorships.
- Compiled, synthesized, analyzed, and performed data visualization using Excel and/or Tableau to develop assessments, recommendations, and assist in the continuing development and maintenance of a long-term vision for a growing team while advising in the timely implementation of that vision.

Education

University of North Carolina, Gillings Schools of Global Public Health | Chapel Hill, NC

May 2021

Master of Public Health (MPH) in Health Equity, Social Justice and Human Rights

- **Relevant Coursework:** Developing, Implementing, and Evaluation Public Health Solutions; Project Management Strategy & Application; Leadership in Health Policy for Social Justice; Data Analysis; Methods & Measures
- **Relevant Projects:** *Mississippi HPV Health Equity Initiative: Self-testing for HPV Among Women of Color Who Have Sex with Women in Mississippi* Program Proposal (Spring 2020)
 - Identified a public health issue with a unique priority population (HPV and related morbidity/mortality among women of color and sexual minority women) and proposed an innovative solution (at-home HPV screening program) targeted towards this population, which required determining population needs via a literature review, a mixed-methods needs assessment (surveys, focus groups, photomapping with community members), and stakeholder engagement strategies (qualitative interviewing, focus groups, public forums).
 - Created an implementation plan, including the overarching goal, objectives for each goal, health equity considerations, and strategies or activities with required resources.
 - Developed an evaluation plan using a quasi-experimental design, specifically an interrupted time series design. The plan included an initial sample prior to intervention implementation, followed by purposive sampling of the population at the end of each year to assess program effectiveness and progress.
 - Designed a dissemination plan for program stakeholders, including the development of a comprehensive report with statistics, key intervention methods, progress tracking, statistical analysis report of the 5-year program results, and an evaluations summary with recommendations or program modifications.

North Carolina State University, College of Sciences | Raleigh, NC

May 2017

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biological Sciences, Human Biology Concentration

- **Relevant Coursework:** Intro to Statistics, Developmental Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Child Psychology, Intro to Human Nutrition, Human Nutrition and Chronic Disease, Biomedical Ethics, Sociology of Medicine
- **Honors:** Cum Laude, Biological Sciences Honors Program, University Scholars Program
- **Honors Research Project:** *Cadmium (Cd) Exposure and Metabolic Functioning* (Spring 2017)

Leadership Experience

Inclusive Excellence Council at Gillings School of Global Public Health Antiracist Curriculum Team Aug 2019 – May 2020

Health Equity, Social Justice, and Human Rights (EQUITY) Cohort Representative Aug 2019 – May 2020

UNC Chapel Hill, Gillings Teaching Assistant Aug 2020 – Nov 2020

- Course: Leading for Racial Equity: Examining Structural Issues of Race and Class

Other Skills: Policy Analysis, Quality Improvement, Strategic Planning, Budget Management, Client Relations, Communication, Diplomacy, Interpersonal Skills, Public Speaking, Results-oriented, Google Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, MS Project, Tableau, Zoom, STATA

References and samples of my work are available upon request.